AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. - 21. (Canceled)

22. (presently amended): A method of depleting anti-major histocompatibility complex (anti-MHC) antibodies in a sample, wherein said anti-MHC antibodies are specific for a naturally occurring MHC allele, wherein the method comprises:

a. contacting the sample with recombinant MHC or recombinant MHC-type molecules, wherein the recombinant MHC or recombinant MHC-type molecules are sufficiently antigenic to be bound by said anti-MHC antibodies in the sample, and wherein the recombinant MHC or recombinant MHC type molecules comprise a class II heavy chain HLA monomer, a class II beta-2-microglobulin HLA monomer and a folding peptide; and

b. removing the bound anti-MHC antibodies from the sample, whereby the sample has been depleted of anti-MHC antibodies.

23. (previously presented): The method of claim 22, wherein the recombinant MHC or recombinant MHC type molecules are linked to a solid support.

24. (previously presented): The method of claim 23, wherein the sample is a serum sample.

25. (previously presented): The method of claim 24, wherein the anti-MHC antibodies are anti-human leukocyte antigen (anti-HLA) antibodies.

26. (presently amended): The method of claim 25, wherein the recombinant MHC or recombinant MHC type molecules further comprise [[are]] Class I human leukocyte antigen (HLA) molecules.

27. (previously presented): The method of claim 25, wherein the recombinant MHC or recombinant MHC type molecules are monomers of a Class I human leukocyte antigen (HLA) molecule.

28. (presently amended): The method of claim 27, wherein the recombinant MHC or recombinant MHC type molecules comprise a class I heavy chain HLA monomer[[,]] and a class I beta-2-microglobulin HLA monomer ~~and a folding peptide~~.

29. (presently amended) The method of claim [[28]] 22, wherein said folding peptide comprises an amino acid sequence ~~at least 80% identical to the amino acid sequence~~ selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:3, SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:5, SEQ ID NO:6 SEQ ID NO:7 and SEQ ID NO:8.

30. (canceled)

31. (canceled)

32. (canceled)

33. (canceled)

34. (presently amended): The method of claim 23, wherein the solid support comprises a support selected from the group consisting of a nitrocellulose strip, a nylon membrane, a nitrocellulose membrane~~, non-magnetic beads~~ and ~~magnetic~~ polymeric beads.

35. (presently amended): The method of claim 34, wherein said solid support comprises magnetic beads or non-magnetic beads.

36. (previously presented): A method of depleting anti-human leukocyte antigens (anti-HLA) antibodies in a patient serum sample, wherein said anti-HLA antibodies are specific for a naturally occurring HLA allele, wherein the method comprises:

a. contacting the sample with recombinant HLA or recombinant HLA-type molecules, wherein the recombinant HLA or recombinant HLA-type molecules are sufficiently antigenic to be bound by anti-HLA antibodies in the sample and wherein the recombinant HLA or recombinant HLA-type molecules comprise a class II heavy chain HLA monomer, a class II beta-2-microglobulin HLA monomer and a folding peptide; and

b. removing the bound anti-HLA antibodies from the sample, whereby the sample has been depleted of anti-HLA antibodies.

37. (previously presented): The method of claim 36, wherein the recombinant HLA or recombinant HLA-type molecules are linked to a solid support.

38. (presently amended): The method of claim 37, wherein the recombinant HLA or recombinant HLA-type molecules further comprise [[are]] Class I human leukocyte antigen (HLA) molecules.

39. (previously presented): The method of claim 37, wherein the recombinant HLA or recombinant HLA-type molecules are monomers of a Class I human leukocyte antigen (HLA) molecule.

40. (presently amended) The method of claim 39, wherein the recombinant HLA or recombinant HLA-type molecules comprise a class I heavy chain HLA monomer[[,]] and a class I beta-2-microglobulin HLA monomer ~~and a folding peptide~~.

41. (presently amended): The method of claim [[40]] 36, wherein said folding peptide comprises an amino acid sequence ~~at least 80% identical to the amino acid sequence~~ selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:3, SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:5, SEQ ID NO:6 SEQ ID NO:7 and SEQ ID NO:8.

42. (canceled)

43. (canceled)

44. (canceled)

45. (canceled)

46. (presently amended): The method of claim 37, wherein the solid support comprises s support selected from the group consisting of a nitrocellulose strip, a nylon membrane, a nitrocellulose membrane~~, non-magnetic beads~~ and ~~magnetic~~ polymeric beads.

47. (presently amended): The method of claim 46, wherein said solid support comprises magnetic beads or non-magnetic beads.